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Mediterranean of the Occident. Here is an exceptional opportunity for the exceptional man. Will he see it?

J. A. UDDEN

AUSTIN, TEXAS,
April 15, 1912

REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

DR. ANDREW D. WHITE has been reappointed, by joint resolution of congress, as a regent of the Smithsonian Institution for six years. Dr. White received his first appointment to this office in the year 1888 and upon the completion of the present term he will have served the institution for thirty years. The vacancy in the board caused by the resignation of Dr. James B. Angell, ex-president of the University of Michigan, who was a regent from January 19, 1887, to January 15, 1912, has been filled by congress by the appointment of the Honorable Charles W. Fairbanks. With the appointments mentioned, the roll of regents is now complete. It is as follows: James S. Sherman, Vice-president of the United States, chancellor; Edward D. White, Chief Justice of the United States; Shelby M. Cullom, member of the Senate; Henry Cabot Lodge, member of the Senate; Augustus O. Bacon, member of the Senate; John Dalzell, member of the House of Representatives; Scott Ferris, member of the House of Representatives; Irvin S. Pepper, member of the House of Representatives; Andrew D. White, citizen of New York; Alexander Graham Bell, citizen of Washington, D. C.; George Gray, citizen of Delaware; Charles F. Choate, Jr., citizen of Massachusetts, John B. Henderson, Jr., citizen of Washington, D. C.; and Charles W. Fairbanks, citizen of Indiana.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

JULES HENRI POINCARÉ, the great mathematician and man of science, died on July 17. He was born at Nancy on April 29, 1854.

THE University of Oxford has conferred the degree of D.Sc. on the following foreign delegates attending the celebration of the 250th

anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Society: Dr. Backlund, director of the Imperial Observatory, Pulkowa; Dr. Brögger, professor of mineralogy and geology at Christiania and rector of the university; Professor Lippmann, president of the Académie des Sciences, Paris; Professor Scott, Blair professor of geology and paleontology at Princeton University; Dr. Waldeyer, professor of anatomy and director of the anatomical institute in the University of Berlin; Dr. Zeeman, professor of physics at Amsterdam.

THE degree of LL.D. was conferred on Professor A. H. Purdue, by the University of Arkansas, upon his retirement from that institution in June. For sixteen years he had been professor of geology there, and *ex-officio* state geologist of Arkansas since 1907. He is now state geologist of Tennessee.

AT the last annual commencement of Lehigh University the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. James E. Talmage, formerly professor of geology in the University of Utah, and on Mr. James Gayley, of New York City.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE, Chestertown, Md., conferred the degree of doctor of science on Dr. J. S. Grasty, professor of geology at the University of Virginia, at the annual commencement, when Professor Grasty delivered the address to the students.

ON the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, the Belgian Chemical Society has elected as honorary members all those who have received the Nobel prize, namely, Messrs. Arrhenius, von Baeyer, Buchner, Fischer, Ostwald, Ramsay, Rutherford and Wallach and Mme. Curie.

DR. FRANCIS H. CHAMPNEYS has been elected president of the Royal Society of Medicine, London.

PROFESSOR JEREMIAH W. JENKS, of Cornell University, has been appointed financial adviser to the Chinese republic.

DR. E. DE WILDMAN has been appointed director of the Brussels Botanical Garden.

MR. WILLIAM ODLING, M.A., F.R.S., has been elected an honorary fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, on his resignation of the Wayn-

flete professorship of chemistry after a tenure of forty years, and his consequent vacation of the professorial fellowship, which he has held for the same period at the college.

MR. WILLIAM McDougall, F.R.S., Wilde reader in mental philosophy at Oxford, has been elected an extraordinary fellow of Corpus Christi College.

It is stated in *Nature* that the John Harling fellowship for the encouragement of the study and research in physical science, in the University of Manchester, has been awarded to Mr. H. G. J. Moseley, who was until recently an assistant lecturer and demonstrator in the department of physics in the university, and to Dr. T. S. Taylor, now instructor of physics in the University of Illinois.

M. ARMAND GAUTHIER, professor of chemistry in the medical faculty of the University of Paris, has retired.

PROFESSOR JOHANNES GAD, who last year retired from the professorship of physiology at Prague, has celebrated his seventieth birthday.

We learn from *The Observatory* that Mr. B. D. Evans, computer at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, has been appointed first assistant at the Hongkong Observatory. The director at Hongkong is now Mr. T. F. Claxton, formerly superintendent of the Mauritius Observatory, and previously on the staff of the magnetic and meteorological department at Greenwich. Mr. Jeffries, now the chief assistant, was also a member of the Greenwich staff.

DR. WILLIAM J. HICKSON, M.D., has been appointed director of the division of medical research in the department of research of the Vineland Training School, Vineland, New Jersey.

DR. J. C. ARTHUR, of Purdue University, gave a course of lectures on plant pathology, the first week in July at the Macbride Lakeside Laboratory, the summer school established by the alumni of the Iowa State University on Lake Okoboji, Iowa.

THE lecture to the Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute, which will be held at York

from July 29 to August 3, will be delivered by Professor Karl Pearson, F.R.S., his subject being "Eugenics and the Public Health." Professor H. R. Kenwood will give the popular lecture on "The Healthy Home."

DURING the past six months the value of the library of the Chemists' Club, New York City, has been notably increased, first by the generous gift of Mr. Herman Frasch of \$10,000, an endowment fund the interest of which is to be used exclusively for the purchase of new books, and second by large gifts by Professor Chandler of 3,200 volumes, by Professor Mallet of 540 volumes and of approximately 700 volumes from members, publishers and authors.

A COMMITTEE has been formed with Mr. Austen Chamberlain as chairman to increase the endowment of the London School of Tropical Medicine. Subscriptions amounting to £15,000 have been received.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has made seventeen grants for scientific research from the Rowland Bonaparte fund varying in amount from 2,000 to 3,000 francs.

THE Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts of Bordeaux will celebrate the bi-centenary of its foundation on November 11 and 12 of the present year.

THE planks in the platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties in regard to public health are as follows. Democratic: "We reaffirm our previous declarations advocating the union and strengthening of the various governmental agencies relating to pure foods, quarantine, vital statistics and human health. Thus united and administered without partiality to or discrimination against any school of medicine or system of healing, they would constitute a single health service, not subordinated to any commercial or financial interests, but devoted exclusively to the conservation of human life and efficiency. Moreover, this health service should cooperate with the health agencies of our various states and cities without interference with their prerogatives, or with the freedom of individuals to employ such medical or hygienic aid as they may see fit." Republican: "It will strive not

only in the nation, but in the several states, to enact the necessary legislation to safeguard the public health; to limit effectively the labor of women and children; to protect wage-earners engaged in dangerous occupations; to enact comprehensive and generous workmen's compensation laws, in place of the present wasteful and unjust system of employers' liability, and in all possible ways to satisfy the just demand of the people for the study and solution of the complex and constantly changing problems of social welfare."

THE German state returns of births and deaths in 1911 continue to confirm the characteristics of the returns for Prussia. In Württemberg the excess of births over deaths was only about 25,000, as compared with more than 29,000 in 1910, and over 30,000 in previous years. In Württemberg, at any rate, it is recognized that the downward tendency will continue, and the Statistical Office calculates that after 1915 there will be a reduction in the number of children for whom provision has to be made in the elementary schools.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the institute founded by the efforts of Professor His for biologic and therapeutic research on radium in the royal Charité has been opened. The aim of the institution is the investigation of the therapeutic effects of radio-active substances such as radium, mesothorium, radiothorium, etc., and their decomposition products. It possesses laboratories for chemical, zoological and botanical research and a complete equipment for physical measurements. In all there are about fifteen places for research workers. The institute is connected with a polyclinic in which internists, surgeons and other interested specialists will have opportunity to treat patients with radiation apparatus of various forms and strength, emanators for inhalation in closed rooms, apparatus for drinking the emanations, and other forms of application. The institute is founded through a fund appropriated by the Kaiser Wilhelm Society for Scientific Research, as well as by grants from various industrial companies. The management is in

the hands of Privy Councilor His, whose representative is Dr. Gudzent. He is supported by a commission to which Professors Kraus, Orth, Lesser, Hildebrand, Bier, Zuntz, Hertwig, Hahn and Marckwald have assured their cooperation. Also a permanent physicochemical collaborator has been secured.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

As has been stated in SCIENCE, the regents of the University of Michigan legislated for the reorganization of graduate studies, by providing for the establishment of an autonomous graduate department, to be governed by its own dean, and by an executive board of seven, together with the president, *ex officio*. The necessary appointments have now been made, as follows: Dr. K. E. Guthe, professor of physics, has been elected to the deanship, while the board is to consist of the president; Dr. M. E. Cooley, dean of the department of engineering; Dr. V. C. Vaughan, dean of the department of medicine; Dr. H. C. Adams, head of the department of political economy; Dr. R. M. Wenley, head of the department of philosophy; Dr. F. N. Scott, head of the department of rhetoric; Professor H. M. Bates, dean of the department of law, and Dr. M. Gomberg, professor of organic chemistry. The new executive will take office on October 1, and will probably devote next year to a thorough consideration of future policy.

WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Washington, has received from seven hundred donors a fund amounting to more than \$200,000.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE is to be united with Fordham University, New York City. The St. Francis Xavier grammar and high school will be maintained.

THE new four-year course which has been outlined by the College of Agriculture, of the University of Illinois, has the first year's work prescribed and one half of the work of each semester of the sophomore year. The remainder of the time is given over to specialization in soils, crops, agricultural teaching, horticulture, farm mechanics, dairying or ani-